

Senator Phillips introduced a bill requiring the Commissioner of the General Land Office to record evidences of title.—
Read 1st time.

Bill authorizing plaintiffs or defendants, or their agents to file briefs of their cases in the Supreme Court, to be taken as an appearance; ordered to be engrossed.

Bill to authorize Chief Justices of counties, elected on the 1st Monday of February, to continue the discharge of the duties of their office. Read 1st time.

Joint resolution, declaring the exclusive right of Texas, to the jurisdiction over the soil included within its limits. Read 1st time.

Bill for the relief of Isaac Ferguson. Read 1st time.

Bill for the protection of widows and orphans. Read 1st time.

On motion of Senator Wood, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

SENATE CHAMBER, }
THURSDAY, April, 9, 1846. }
9 o'clock A. M.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment, roll called and a quorum present.

Journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.

Senator Grimes, Chairman of the Finance committee, to whom was referred "a bill to raise a revenue by direct taxation," reported the same back to the Senate with an amendment:

Fifth section, fifth line, after "imposed" insert "and upon all property assessed, where the owner is unknown."

The committee also submit the following statement of the amount of property taxable, its value, and the amount of revenue arising on each kind, as nearly as can be arrived at from the the Treasurer's report of the assessment for the year 1845.

The following is a statement of the amount of property taxable, its value, and the amount of revenue arising on each kind, as nearly as the same can be arrived at from the Treasurer's report of the assessment for the year 1845.

21,885,990 acres of land valued at \$15,830,120,00	
the amount of revenue arising from the same at 20 cents on each hundred dollars worth is	\$31,680,24
18,332 town lots valued at \$1,589,874,00 and the revenue arising from the same at 20 cents on each hundred dollars worth, is	3,179,64
218 Pleasure Carriages supposed to be valued at \$200,00 each, would amount to \$43,600,00 and the revenue arising from the same at 20 cents on each hundred dollars worth would be	87,20
\$9,417, money at interest, the amount of revenue arising from the same at 20 cents on each hundred dollars would be	18,83
23,624 Slaves valued at \$300 each would amount to \$7,087,200,00, and the revenue arising from the same, at 20 cents on each hundred dollars would be	14,174,40
12,993 head of horses valued at \$25,00 each, amounts to \$324,825,00 and the amount of revenue arising from the same at 20 cents on each hundred dollars worth would be	649,65
284,336 head of cattle valued at \$3,50 each amounts to \$995,196,00 and the amount of revenue arising from the same 20 cents on each hundred dollars, would be	1,990,35
337 metal clocks, 563 wood clocks, 508 gold watches, 451 silver watches, in all 1859 at an average value of \$35,00 each, would amount to \$65,400,00 and at 20 cents on each hundred dollars would produce revenue to the amount of	130,80
10,730 persons subject to poll tax at one dollar for each, would raise a revenue of	10,730,00
Making altogether	\$62,621,11
Add for deficiency of eight counties, from which no assessment was made, at the time of the Secretary of the Treasury making his report	17,891,74
Amount carried over	\$80,512,86

Amount brought over	\$ 80,512,85
Statement number 6 of the Treasurer's report shows the amount of license tax collected from 26 counties for five quarters, or 15 months ending on the 1st February, '46, to be \$15,140,16, take from that amount \$3028,03 and the remainder 12,112,13 is the amount of license tax collected from the 26 counties reported for the 12 months ending February 1st, 1846	12,112,13
Add for deficiency of 10 counties, from which no returns had been reported of license collected	4,658,51
Making altogether	\$97,283,49
Deduct ten per cent. set apart by the Constitution for purposes of education	9,728,34
Leaving	\$87,555,15

It is believed that there will be a larger number of horses and cattle taxed under the laws that will be enacted at the present session of the Legislature, than was under the laws heretofore existing, which only taxed all the horses over four head, owned by each individual, and all the cattle over twenty-five head — Sheep, hogs and other stock, together with many small items could be mentioned, but the amount of revenue arising from the same would be inconsiderable, and perhaps it would be safest not to estimate the same, but to leave it out to balance against failures which may take place on some of the items before enumerated.

It would also be proper to deduct the expenses of assessing and collecting the revenue, but the commissions for the same not being fixed yet, the amount cannot be ascertained.

Senator Scott, Chairman of the committee on Engrossed Bills, reported

A bill to authorize the Governor to demand monies due the State, by the Government of the United States. And

A bill to provide for the transfer of Judicial proceedings from old to new counties, as correctly engrossed.

Also,

An act creating the county of Smith, and

An act to incorporate Duval Academy, in the county of Franklin,

As correctly enrolled, signed by the Speaker and President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and presented to the Governor for his approval.

Senator Cuney, from the committee on Claims and Accounts, reported back without amendments, a bill for the relief of N. Amory.

Senator Kinney introduced a bill, to allow persons holding liabilities of the late Republic of Texas, to receive land scrip in payment thereof; and a bill to prevent the introduction of vagrants into the State from foreign countries Read 1st time.

A message was received from the House, transmitting

A bill to create the county of Denton, which originated in the Senate, and

A bill creating the county of Cass, originating in the House.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

An act to organize Probate Courts.

Senator Robinson moved to strike out "and of drunkards" in the 8th line, and the words "to appoint trustees for habitual and notorious drunkards," in the 19th line.

Yeas and nays being called, stood:

Yeas. Senators, Bourland, Brashear, Grimes, Kinney, Miller, Robinson, Williamson and Wood—8.

Nays. Senators, Bagby, Burleson, Hogg, Jewett, McKinney, McNeel, Navarro, Parker, Phillips, Scott, Wallace, and Williams—12.

Lost.

Senator Williamson moved to insert after the word "estates," "provided, always that no costs shall accrue in protecting drunkards, as contemplated by this section."

Carried.

Senator Wallace moved to strike out "and of drunkards" in the 19th line, "to appoint trustees, for habitual and notorious drunkards" in 23rd line, and the proviso just adopted.

Yeas and nays called, stood:

Yeas. Senators, Bourland, Brashear, Grimes, Jewett, Kinney, Miller, Phillips, Robinson, Wallace, Williams, Williamson and Wood—12.

Nays. Senators, Bagby, Burleson, Hogg, McKinney, McNeel, Navarro, Parker, and Scott—8.

Adopted.

Senator Williamson moved to strike out in 2nd section, 4th line, from the word "annexed" to the word "in."

Carried.

Senator Scott moved a reconsideration of the vote just taken.

Carried.

Senator Williamson moved to strike out the word "thereon" in 4th line.

Carried.

Senator Wallace moved to insert "thereon" after "administrator" in 4th line."

Carried.

Senator Williamson moved to strike out the words "and to dismiss trustees" in 22nd line.

Lost.

Senator Scott moved to strike out all after the word "clerk" in third line of 7th section, to the word "by" in 4th line.

Carried.

Senator Kinney moved to strike out "ten days" in 2nd line and insert "three weeks."

Lost.

A message was received from the House, transmitting.

A bill establishing the Judicial Districts of the State, with amendments.

On motion of Senator Parker, the bill under consideration was laid on the table, and the Senate took up the bill transmitted from the House.

Senator Wallace moved the non-concurrence of the Senate in the amendments of the House.

On motion, the Senate adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senator Scott, from the Engrossing Committee, reported correctly engrossed,

A bill authorizing plaintiffs or defendants, or their agent to file in the Supreme Court, briefs of their cases, to be taken as an appearance. *Also,*

A joint resolution granting permission to any person, who petitioned the Legislature, for relief, to withdraw their vouchers. *Also,*

A bill to allow former holders of land sold for taxes, to redeem the same, where it was purchased in by the Government.

Amendments of the House to the bill to organize the Judicial Districts of the State. Question, before the Senate being the concurrence in the amendments.

Yeas and nays being called, were as follows:

Yeas. Senators, Bagby, Bourland, Burleson, Cuney, Hogg, Jewett, Kinney, McKinney, Navarro, Parker, Williamson and Williams—12.

Nays. Senators, Grimes, Miller, Phillips, Robinson, Scott, Wallace, and Wood—7.

Carried.

Senator Cuney introduced the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate, the House concurring, That the two Houses of the Legislature, will go into the election of District Attorneys of the several districts of the State, on Saturday the 11th inst., at eleven o'clock.

Laid on the table one day.

Senator Kinney, Chairman of the committee on Printing, reported, recommending that sealed proposals be received for printing 2,500 copies of the Constitution, Ordinance relating to colonization contracts, and the Laws, together with 500 copies of the Journals, and that the Legislature go into the election of Public Printer, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at 12 o'clock.

Report adopted.

Senator Navarro introduced a joint resolution requiring the Governor to investigate the subject of the public domain.—Read 1st time.

On motion, the bill to organize Probate Courts was taken up.

Senator Wallace moved to insert "or guardianship" before "administration" in 2nd line of 7th section.

Carried.

Senator Grimes moved to strike out in 2nd line, 8th section, the word "one" and insert "two."

Lost.

Senator Jewett moved to strike out all after the word "office" in 10th section and insert "to be administered by the Probate Judge."

Carried.

Senator Williamson moved to strike out the word "appropriate."

Carried.

Senator Williamson moved to strike out in 17th section, 13th line, the word "representatives" and insert "guardians."

Lost.

Senator Bourland moved to strike out "by families" in 10th line.

Yeas. Senators, Bourland, Hogg, Williamson, and Wood.
—2.

Nays. Senators, Bagby, Burleson, Cuney, Grimes, Jewett, McKinney, McNeel, Miller, Navarro, Parker, Phillips, Robinson, Scott, Wallace and Williams—15.

Lost.

Senator Phillips offered an additional section:

Be it further enacted. That all laws and parts of laws heretofore in force, relative to the duties of Probate Courts, and the settlement of successions, be and the same are hereby repealed; and unfinished business of estates now pending, shall be conducted from this date in accordance with the provisions of this act, and that this act take effect from the 1st day of July next.

Adopted, and bill ordered to be engrossed.

Senate adjourned until to-morrow 9 o'clock.

SENATE CHAMBER, }
FRIDAY April 10, 1846. }
9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Senate met, pursuant to adjournment—roll called and a quorum present.

Journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.

Senator Scott, Chairman of the committee on Enrolled Bills, reported the following bills correctly enrolled:

An act to exempt from taxation \$250 worth of household property and other personal property belong to each family in this State.

An act to provide for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the State of Texas.

An act to create the county of Hunt.

An act to incorporate Lamar Academy in the county of Lamar.

An act creating the county of Cherokee.

Senator Grimes introduced a bill, to establish a General Land Office for the State of Texas. Read 1st time.